

SIOP-NEXT 2026 San Antonio Symposium

From Insight to Impact: Closing the Gap Between Basic Science and Clinical Trials

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026

Official Program Hours: 08:00 – 17:00

Location: [Greehey Children's Cancer Research Institute \(CCRI\)](#), San Antonio, Texas

Main Event Room: Auditorium

Registration Fee: USD 25 (includes breakfast, lunch, and coffee breaks)

- **08:00 – 08:45 | Breakfast & Networking**

Pre-assigned, focused tables to encourage early interaction with Kara L. Davis, Pablo Domizi, Nickhill Bhakta, Javeria Aijaz, Lourdes Vega Vega, Terrie Flatt, Eugenie S. Kleinerman.

- **08:45 – 09:00 | Welcome and Introduction**
- **09:00 – 10:00 | Inspiring Session I: Integrating Biological Research into Clinical Trials**

Speakers:

Kara L. Davis, MD (Stanford Medicine; Vice Chair, Biology, ALL Committee, Children's Oncology Group)

Pablo Domizi, PhD (Stanford Medicine; Postdoctoral Fellow)

A dual presentation highlighting the integration of translational science into clinical trials, combining senior leadership and early-career perspectives, including career development insights.

- **10:00 – 10:30 | Panel Discussion & Audience Q&A**

Topic: Bridging basic, translational, and clinical research in pediatric oncology

Panelists: Kara L Davis, Pablo Domizi, Terrie Flatt, Eugenie S. Kleinerman

- **10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee Break & Networking**
- **11:00 – 12:00 | Inspiring Session II: Advancing Translational Research in LMIC Settings**

Speakers:

Dr. Nickhill Bhakta (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital)

Dr. Javeria Aijaz (Indus Hospital & Health Network, Karachi)

Focus on innovative approaches to integrating diagnostics and biology into clinical care and trials, including global collaborations.

- **12:00 – 12:30 | Panel Discussion & Audience Q&A**

Topic: Opportunities and challenges in conducting translational research in LMICs

Panelists: Nickhill Bhakta, Javeria Aijaz, Lourdes Vega Vega

- **12:30 – 13:30 | Mentoring Lunch**

Pre-assigned small-group discussions with mentors:

Kara L. Davis, Pablo Domizi, Nickhill Bhakta, Javeria Aijaz, Lourdes Vega Vega, Terrie Flatt, Eugenie S. Kleinerman

- **13:30 – 14:15 Interactive session |Turning Discovery into Impact: What Role Can SIOP Play?**
- **14:30 – 15:15 | Inspirational Lecture I: Career Development, Funding, and Opportunities within SIOP + discussion**

Speaker:

Prof. M.M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink (Chair, SIOP Scientific Committee)

Focus on available grants, funding opportunities, and career development pathways within SIOP for early-career researchers in translational and preclinical pediatric oncology.

- **15:15– 15:45 | Inspirational Lecture II**

Speaker: Prof. Suzanne Turner

Topic: Why Understanding Cancer Biology Is Still the Key to Better (and Kinder) Therapies

- **15:45 – 16:00 | Group Photo Opportunity**
- **16:00-16:30 | Discussion & Audience Q&A with Prof. Rob Pieters (SIOP President)**

Topic: Navigating career development, funding, and engagement opportunities within SIOP

- **16:30 – 17:00 | Wrapping up: the future of SIOP NEXT**
- **17:00 – 18:00 Networking drinks with mentors**